



THE THATCHAM POSTMARK

THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SUMMER EDITION June 2018



The Chairmans Report

As many of you know, I have decided to step down from the role of Chairman at the next A.G.M. I have been Chairman now for 8 years and feel that it is time for a change,

I have always believed that the society is a friendly place where we can enjoy each others philatelic interests, be they highly specialised collections, or those of a broad interest.

I would like to thank all the committee members over the years for all the assistance and guidance they have given me.

The role of Chairman is not a particularly arduous one and I would urge anyone considering this post to contact myself or Graeme to find out exactly what is involved, I fully intend to continue to be an active member of the society and, other than introducing the speakers at meetings, I expect to do much the same as now!

Barney Bardsley, your current chairman.

Year 53

Issue 141

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Tristan and the Northamptoners

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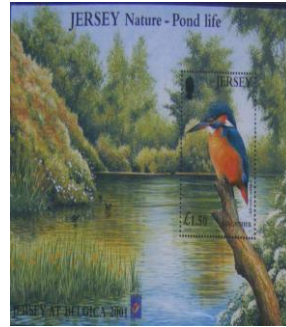
Photo Gallery



Cats and Dogs



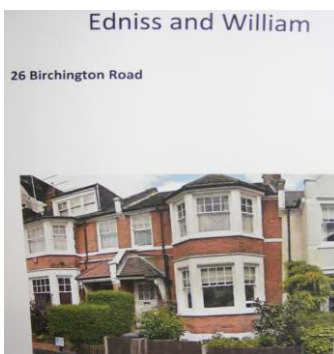
A Furry thing



Jersey pond life



We are all the same



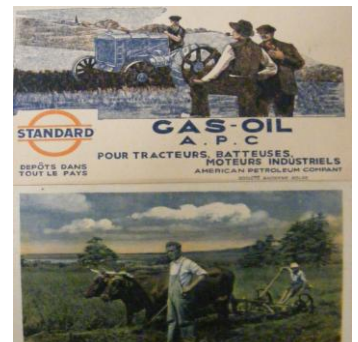
Birchington Road



Greetings



Funny 1903 letter cards



Digging the fields



Drawn by an Elephant!



Nice postcards



World weather issues



Tokyo Kabuki



"Risky stamps"



Don't let me leave this place



Marconi and early radio

PAST EVENTS

Monday April 9th “Furry Things” with 14 members present

Juliet Keel started the meeting with pictures of cats and dogs and her favourite black and white cards of them as well including dogs tails spelling `love` and of 4 Manx cats.

Dave Tanner then followed with GB `Cats` issues and `post and go` Monkeys in the zoo. then lots of furry things on stamps – rabbits, hares, koala bears and pandas and a rat and a mouse. Then he showed lots of labels with koala bears on them and also some lemurs and bears and a great book on animals in general,

Graeme Stewart continued with pictures of polar bears and bison and racoons and then brought out some dead furry things that he keeps in his freezer (at the bottom of the garden I hope) – I am a mole and I live in a hole! Well several dead ones anyway.

Martin Farr had no furry animals but showed a sequence of sheets about the `Origins of mankind` which began with pictures of early gorillas and hominids of our species. The last sheet showed all the Homo Sapiens species that came out of Africa some 70,000 years ago to populate the world. There is less than 0.1% difference in our genes.

There was an auction at half time and 18 items from 23 were sold

On Monday 16th April Bob Paterson visited the Basingstoke Society to give a talk on “2000 Years to Lift-Off” which is his thematic sequence all about going to the moon in fantasy, fact and fiction. His presentation was very well received and all the members enjoyed it. Well done Bob.

Thursday April 19th “Tristan Brittain and the Northamptoners” All 4 of them and just 16 of us on the hottest day for 70 years !

Tristan started off with more of his `Rubbish` that should have been put in the wastepaper bin. Old letters and postal stationery. 1824 letters , an 1834 letter with a piece of cloth from an Egyptian mummy in it! Lots of letters to and from a Mr Mitchell from 1024/5 mostly from his enamourata. They were all found under the stairs of an old house at 26, Birchington Road where she lived. She was called Edniss and he was William. They got engaged but never married but she kept all of the letters of the relationship including hers to him so he must have given them all back at some time.

Paul Boniface was next and showed a nice collection of overprints of British stamps from British Expeditionary Forces (BEF) and Field post offices and Middle East forces. Then lots of British Military Administration overprints on letters and covers to and from Eritrea. A very scarce airmail letter to Aden and he finished off with lots of overprints on letters to and from Somalia and Libya and many concerning the British occupation of Italian colonies by the Expeditionary Forces. All very interesting indeed.

Gwyn Hughes was next and he was a farmer now retired and his display was all about agriculture and farming (what else!). He showed lots of labels and cards about agricultural shows and correspondence to and from the Royal Agricultural Society. The first show was held in Oxford in 1839. He showed letters and data from several more shows that included advertising material, covers and programmes and he finished off with adverts and data all about farming machinery that included JCB`s and tractors. All very rural. The evening finished with **Jeffrey Beasley** who presented lots of well written up material all about George V postal stationery. Newspaper wrappers from 1918-20, registered

envelopes from 1927 onwards, all to overseas, that had extra rates applied to them. Then lots of registered letters to all around the world including nice ones from Belfast, Holland, USA, and Belgium. A very nice well presented display.

Monday 31th April

The Theme for today was “Entertainment” and we only had 14 members present.

Neil Hatton started the afternoon with a little girls picture made of cut-out stamps and a `jolly golly` picture. Then some `bloomers` cards including `she was only a butchers daughter but lo how they loved her chops`! he finished with a selection of stamps about the opera and ballet and some saucy humour seaside cards.

Mike Smith showed just one nice item. He spoke about his visits to his son in Hong Kong and the stop-overs. One was in Thailand when he visited the elephants in a reserve that had been set up for them. They watched them being fed and get squirted by them as well, One elephant called Thong Petch held a paintbrush in his trunk and painted pictures – one of which Mike purchased and showed to us - just amazing.

Martin Farr showed some pictures from his `recorded sound` sequence including early BBC information and a 1930 wireless licence.

There was a mini auction at half time and 17 lots from 20 were sold and realised £26.50 for the widow of Ben Hampton

Dave Tanner then showed many covers of films and the industry and ones about sports and the variety club. Then lots of covers about TV kids programmes, Shakespeare stage sets and Gilbert and Sullivan operas. What a nice mixture of entertainment.

Graeme Stewart finished off the displays by showing novelty and entertainment cards mainly to and from Newbury and there was a great postcard of 12 kids in bed with the caption `When father says turn we all turn` and `What do we do with soiled kids – Send them to be cleaned`! There were `good luck` cards from 1913/4, several with nice messages from Newbury and area all with local postmarks of the era.

On Tuesday 8th May Malcolm Hoskins and Barney Bardsley went to the Wokingham Society. Barneys talk was `1d Blacks and a bit on the side`. All about 1d black issues and plate processes, the `bit on the side` being `wing margins that occurred from 1855-1880.

Malcolm showed a splendid selection of postcards by Bruce Bairnsfather who became known as `The Soldier who made the Empire Laugh`. Both exhibits and talks were much appreciated and of great interest to the meeting.

Also on Tuesday 8th May Bob Paterson was invited to the Camberley Society where he gave an illustrated talk on the Postmarks of the Duchy of Cornwall - `There isn't an X in Cornwall`. It was all about postmarks, postal history and relevant postcards. He was well received by an appreciative audience,

Thursday 17th May “Seychelles” with Sue Hopson

Sue showed us a map of the world and indicated where the Seychelles were and spoke of its early history all illustrated by postal history sheets that she used to tell the story.

There were lots of early letters and correspondence from 1824-1841. Letters to Sue

Thursday 17th May “Seychelles” with Sue Hopson

from there and pictures of the post offices of the island. She showed many sheets of postal stationery, postcards and registered letters. She was interested in maritime connections and showed quite a few sheets thereon including British Navy covers and mail carried from Seychelles by naval vessels. To finish part 1 Sue showed us a smashing book `Seychelles – Postal History and Postage stamps to 1976` that she co-authored with B.M. McCoy.

Sue started part 2 with sheets of postal stationery from Seychelles and Mauritius with many overprints and then a selection of early postcards. Lots of registered mail examples with three covers to the same person in France, Then government mail sheets and `Official Paid` to and from offices and police departments. Lots of correspondence with cancels of WW2 followed by a good range of cancellation types. Sue finished off with sheets of forgeries and fakes of Seychelles stamps and issues and a final selection of what she called `Odds and Sods`. Thank you Sue for a great and entertaining evening.

Monday 4th June

The theme for today was `The Weather` and there were 15 members present

Mike Smith started the afternoon by talking about the Okavango which is a significant inland delta of some 15,000 square km with very fertile rich soil and plenty of wild animals. He showed us a map indicating where it was. The river disappears into the sands of the Kalahari desert region. He showed us two lovely books of the region and a sheet of first day covers. Very interesting.

Neil Hatton was the next speaker and he showed 2001 weather stamps of the four seasons. Then a picture of a lady hosing her feet with an ice-pack on her head. It must have been hot (but perhaps not as hot as this last week in June!). Then a picture with ladies sheltering from the rain. These were followed by Lucy Atwell post cards and a card of a large storm. Neil finished off with a picture of 3 farmers asleep in the hay.

What a nice selection of material.

Ann Martin was next – she had a dichotomy - `Weather to bring it or weather to not`.

It was actually an article from the Daily Telegraph “All about Stamps”

from October 16th 1937.

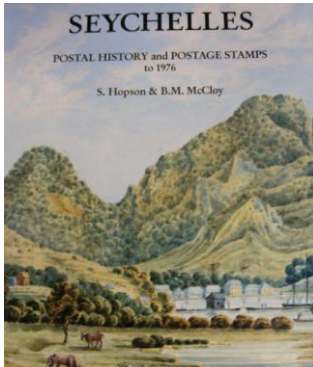
To finish off the afternoon **Graeme** showed stamps and postcards about the weather and illustrated sheets and stamps of Antarctica all about the weather and the climatic regions. Then stamps about ice formations and methods of transport across the region. Very nice.

Thursday 21st June should have been an evening with Nathan Gregory but he could not make it and so we had an ad-hoc evening of volunteers.

Barney Bardsley spoke about the canals of England and Wales. He showed them all on a large map. He showed postcards of lovely aqueducts on the Porthleven and then Grand Union and Manchester ship canal pictures. Then cards of the Suez and Panama canals (He actually wore his panama hat for this!). A nice and interesting display and talk.

Dave Tanner the told us about British Occupation issues of Iraq, overprinted Turkish stamps and then Mosul overprints. 1922 Mandate issued their own set of stamps designed by the ladies of the Embassy. Then Baghdad o/p's with the new currency. The mandate given up in 1932 and the kingdom of Iraq was established. Nice pictorials and stamps.

THE MORE PICTURES PAGE



Sue – co-author



Sue Hopson and her relatives



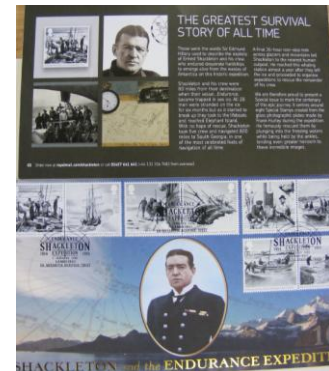
Seychelles covers



Letter carried by this vessel from Seychelles



Map showing the Okavango delta region



Ice cold in Antarctica

Graeme Stewart showed a selection of his Post Boxes collection. Pillar and wall boxes and the terminology used on them. Pictures and cards from all over the place. Then some 'Ludlow' boxes with variations and several pictures of Bantam Boxes. Then Victorian, Edward VII and George VI styles with a selection of colour plates of everything. It is quite a collection.

Francis Connolly then talked about his "Ramblings on the fascination of Edward VII 1d Reds". Over about 10 years 80 million sheets of 240 stamps were issued. They were the line engraved issues and he showed many variations of the stamps with errors, omissions and forgeries thereon. Francis acquired a set of 12 albums from the collection of H.S. Doupe and he showed just a part of one album! Wow! What a collection that must be.

Martin Farr showed his set of 'The Mutiny on the Bounty' story. He had obtained several more sheets of the Pitcairn Islands issues, one of which showed some articles salvaged from the wreck of the Bounty by divers.

Both **Dave** and **Graeme** showed several more sheets of their subjects. Dave – official air mails and coronation issues of King Faisal while Graeme showed lamp boxes on posts and short and squat Benton boxes. A good ad hoc afternoon.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Tony Bray for World new issues at www.tonybray.co.uk

Royal Mail for all past and new issues at www.royalmail.com

The society website with lots of data and links at www.tdps.co.uk

Avion Thematics – one of the best organised sites at www.avionstamps.com

****The Avion website now incorporates the stock listings for Phoenix International****

Portsmouth stamp shop for awkward items and covers at www.portsmouthstampshop.co.uk

A.B.P.S for all the latest philatelic news, events and links at www.abps.org.uk

Recent and Future Royal Mail Issues

5 th June	The Royal Academy of Arts
26 th June	Dad`s Army
31 st July	Hampton Court Palace
16 th August	Captain Cook and `Endevour`
30 th August	The Old Vic
13 th September	The First World War

The Packet Circuit

As some of you are aware, your committee has agreed to cancel the 10% charge raised against those of you who submit booklets for circulation. The Packet Circuit is a Club service to both vendors and purchasers.

The time and effort which goes into preparing booklets for circulation is very much appreciated and the dropping of the 10% levy will be back- dated to March 2017.

The circuit has a membership of 21 and there is always room for more. There are currently 200 booklets in 15 packet boxes in circulation (including a few from Basingstoke) with a wide range of philatelic material on offer, mainly GB and Commonwealth but foreign and world countries are included.

You may have noticed that the packet boxes are being started off at different locations in the addressee listings.

This is to ensure that more members are able to see and select from boxes that have not had lots of previous customers.

Yours in Philately,
Neil Hatton.
Packet Secretary

Please Note

There are still some members that have not yet signed and returned the Data Protection form to Mike Ward. Please do so asap.

REMEMBER THAT YOUR OCTOBER AUCTION LOTS AND LISTS MUST BE WITH MIKE WARD BY THE END OF THIS MONTH!

THE BACK PAGE

“Club Stamps” corner

Club Stamps are well looked after by **Dave Tanner** who will be present at most of our club meetings. There will usually be a Club Table at all stamp fairs held at the Memorial Hall.

Accessories

Dave is also the contact for the purchase of all philatelic accessories – most of which are available to be ordered at a small discount.

Stamps of the World Catalogue set (normal price - £200) – TDPS price £155 + p&p

Collect British stamps (normal price - £12.95) – TDPS price £10 + p&p

GB Concise (normal price - £30) – TDPS price £23.50 + p&p

A small percentage always goes to club funds. Give Dave a ring on 01256 780467

Future Programme and Events

Monday 2nd July The three sheet Jerry Wilson Memorial Trophy Quiz and a short theme on `Americano!

Thursday 19th July `Propaganda stamps and Windsor Castle` with Francis Connolly and Mike Gurr

There is no Monday meeting in August

Thursday 16th August `What I collect other than stamps` - Members to display World War II and the RAF.

Monday 3rd Sept. The A.G.M. and Social Evening – Quiz and Charity Auction

Thursday 20th Sept. `Around the Pacific`

Monday 1st October 36th Annual Stamp Fair at the Memorial Hall
Auction lots on view for our Auction in October

Saturday 6th October `Costumes and the Theatre`

Society Needs and Wants

An extra pair of hands to help with the tea and coffee will be appreciated, especially at the Monday meetings.

We still need a volunteer to take on the Archiving and Storage of Society documents
The Society needs a Competition Co-ordinator.

We are still looking for representatives for the Thames Valley and Hampshire Federations

Officers of the Club

President	John Baron	01933 650092
Chairman	Barney Bardsley	0777 0376 235
Vice Chair	Still vacant	
Secretary	Graeme Stewart	01635 866942
Treasurer	Mike Ward	01635 864307

Committee

Colin Bartholemew	01635 865457
Neil Hatton	01635 280639

Archivist	Still Need One	WestBex	Graeme, Martin and Ann	Publicity	Martin Farr
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